

Message Text

SECRET

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47

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 INR-05 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SP-02 CIAE-00 L-01 DODE-00 PM-03 SAM-01 /041 W

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O R 181445Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4116

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMCONGEN DHAHRAN

USDEL ASWAN

S E C R E T AMMAN 1816

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, JO, LE

SUBJECT: TAPLINE DEVELOPMENTS

ASWAN/JERUSALEM FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

BEIRUT ALSO FOR BAGHAD

1. CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR SAID NABULSI TOLD US LAST EVENING HE HAD POSTPONED HIS DEPARTURE FOR SAUDI ARABI UNTIL SUNDAY, MARCH 23, BECAUSE TAPLINE HAD ASKED TO SPEAK WITH HIM TODAY MARCH 19.

2. NABULSI SAID THAT RECENTLY ARAB BANK PRESIDENT ABDUL MAJAD SHOMAN HAD VISITED LENANON TO DISCUSS TAPLINE SITUATION WITH GOL. RESULT WAS THAT GOL ENCOURAGED GOJ APPROACH SAUDIS.

3. NABULSI SAID HE THOUGHT TAPLINE MIGHT COME IN WITH A NEW OFFER. WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC, WE TOLD
SECRET

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HIM WE THOUGHT SITUATION WAS NOT GOOD, TAPLINE WAS

IN A SQUEEZE BETWEEN SAUDI AND GOJ AND GOL AND COULD
NOT CONTINUE TO OPERATE AT DEFICIT.
WE AGAIN URGED AN APPROACH TO SAUDIS.

4. NABULSI SAID JORDANIANS ARE SUFFICIENTLY CONCERNED
ABOUT THEIR OIL SUPPLY TO HAVE (A) APPROACHED IRAQ
FOR DEAL PARALLEL TO THAT GIVEN TO GOL WITH CRUDE
DELIVERED AT \$3.00 PER BARREL. TWICE IRAQI CENTRAL
BANK GOVERNOR WHO IS OLD SCHOOL FRIEND OF NABULSI
CONFIRMED IRAQ WAS SERIOUS IN HELPING AFTER REFERRAL
TO IRAQI OIL AUTHORITIES. PROBLEM IS LACK OF
TRANSPORTATION AND EXPERTISE ON HOW TO GET IRAQI
OIL TO JORDAN. IRAQI ALSO CONFIRMED THAT ITS
PRODUCTION AND THIS YEAR WELL DOWN FROM LAST YEAR.
NABULSI AND IRAQIS AGREED GOJ DELEGATION WOULD GO
TO BAGHAD SOON TO REVIEW QUESTION. SECOND ITEM
(B) WAS INCORPORATION IN NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN
OF PROPOSAL TO BUILD A PIPELINE FROM REFINERY AT
ZERQA TO PORT OF AQABA ALONG WITH STORAGE
FACILITIES AT AQABA. UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS
REFINED PRODUCT AND BUNKER FUEL WOULD BE PASSED
DOWN TO AQABA FOR STORAGE AND SALE IN SOUTH
JORDAN. IF CRUDE DELIVERIES IN TAPLINE INTERRUPTED
GOJ WOULD SEEK TO BRING IT IN BY TANKER AND PUMP
IT UP THE LINE TO ZERQA THEREBY RELIEVING THEMSELVES
OF SOLE RELIANCE OF TAPLINE.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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